

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6 are pending in this case.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Singh et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,011,239, herein "Singh") in view of Kazuhiro (Japanese Patent Publication No. 08-255449).

The specification and abstract are amended to correct informalities. No new matter is added.

The outstanding rejection is respectfully traversed in light of the following discussion.

The claims as currently written include affixing a flexible wiring on a face of a head supporting member before bending a load beam of the head supporting member. An exemplary embodiment is shown in Figure 3, where flexible wiring 3 is affixed to a face of head supporting member 1. The load beam of the head supporting member is then bent for gram load adjustment. Thereafter, a magnetic head is mounted to the head supporting member.

Accordingly, independent Claim 1 recites a method of fabricating a magnetic head apparatus comprising:

affixing a flexible wiring on a face of the head  
supporting member before bending a load beam included in the  
head supporting member;  
bending the load beam; and  
mounting a magnetic head to an end portion of the head  
supporting member.

Singh describes a laser apparatus and a method for adjusting the gram load, static attitude, and flying height in a head suspension assembly. Singh illustrates a head suspension

assembly 10 including an actuator arm 26 and a load beam 14.<sup>1</sup> On page 2, paragraph 2, lines 4 and 5, the outstanding Office Action states that Singh discloses “affixing a wiring on a face of a head supporting member,” without providing a reference number for the “wiring.” It is respectfully submitted that Singh does not teach or suggest that any wiring, flexible or not, is affixed to a face of the head suspension assembly.

Kazuhiro describes a disc device including a planar suspension 34.<sup>2</sup> Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Kazuhiro does not teach or suggest “affixing a flexible wiring on a face of the head supporting member before bending a load beam included in the head supporting member” as recited in Claim 1, as Kazuhiro does not teach or suggest bending a load beam at any time.

Since the cited references do not teach or suggest each and every element of Claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 1 is patentable over the cited references.

Claims 2 and 3 are dependent from Claim 1, which applicant respectfully submits is patentable. Thus, Claims 2 and 3 are also believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 1.

Independent Claim 4 recites similar elements to Claim 1. It is respectfully submitted that Claim 4 is patentable over the cited art for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 1.

Claims 5 and 6 are dependent from Claim 4, which applicant respectfully submits is patentable. Thus, Claims 5 and 6 are also believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 4.

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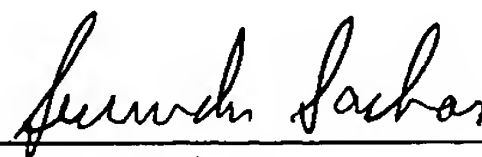
<sup>1</sup>See Singh, column 6, lines 16-29 and Figure 7.

<sup>2</sup>See Kazuhiro, Constitution and Figure 2.

Accordingly, the outstanding rejection is traversed and the pending claims are believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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